

Interagency Council on Homelessness

WORKGROUP: POLICY,
PLANNING, AND ADVOCACY

DATE: 6/30/2017

TIME: 9:30a – 11:30a CST

MINUTES

MEMBER ATTENDEES	Mike Dunthorn – City of Knoxville, Whitney Page - DHS, John Alexander - DLWD, Tammy Lynn – Region 2 Housing Facilitator, Connie Farmer – Volunteer Services, Robin Butterfield – Alliance Healthcare Services, Justin Singleton - DoE
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Agenda topics

1. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

DISCUSSION	TDMHSAS opened the meeting asking for any input regarding the current Workgroup and action step implementation process. Going forward there will be more of a focus on the action steps identified to be priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those in attendance agreed
FOLLOW-UP ITEMS	N/A

2. ACTION STEP REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION	<p>2.3 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggestion that a letter of support from the Governor that CoCs can send out to mayors may be beneficial as CoCs work to build relationships with mayors for PIT count support Kentucky conducted a statewide housing/homeless meeting in Kentucky organized by the CoCs. 2-3 days and included national representatives. Connie Farmer to provide contact info for the Kentucky Housing Coordination Suggestion to go into communities with a local example to present to help local leaders understand the issues of homelessness in their area – help to change misconceptions Suggestion that TDMHSAS reach out to mayors and local leaders to make personal connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find out if there are any large meetings that the mayors in Tennessee all attend. Provide more publication of the Governor’s interest in ending homelessness and the link that has with his other initiatives regarding education and employment <p>5.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Input from DLWD was that more employers are willing to take more risks but it’s still difficult for individuals with criminal background histories and active substance abuse American Job Centers are doing more targeting of homeless individuals It was suggested that the AJCs share success stories to advertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Alexander to f/up Abigail to connect with Katie Lee and DHS regarding success stories <p>5.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because education is a strong priority for the Governor, it may be helpful to reach out to Todd to see how the Council and the PP&A Workgroup can support current efforts It was suggested by DOE to better communicate to unaccompanied youth to apply for FAFSA and mark themselves as unaccompanied, homeless youth – this will increase the amount of funding they receive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abigail will communicate this to CoCs and DCS <p>5.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOE shared that East and West regions held meetings in the spring and Mid-Cumberland Middle TN will be held in September. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West TN CoC attended the west regional meeting with great success DOE is communicating the importance of collaboration with CoCs to the liaisons.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new contact list of homeless liaisons is being created and will be sent out once complete • It was suggested that liaisons attend the CoC meetings. A collection of the meeting CoC meeting dates will be communicated with DOE who will then send it out to the liaisons. <p>5.6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLWD shared that the workforce boards all have regional plans submitted at this point. JA will reach out to the 13 boards in the state to see how they may benefit from connecting more with the CoCs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A reminder: Most board members are volunteers ○ American Job Centers are the best connections and there are 40-50 AJCs across the state ○ Every board has 1 comprehensive center • CoCs should consider inviting and coordinating with the AJCS to present at a CoC meeting • John to send director contact to Abigail based on the CoC map. Abigail to send CoC map to John <p>6.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The question: How do we determine effectiveness? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The ability to maintain housing with employment? • Systems with Data to utilize: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ American Job Centers do track homelessness in their systems but JA is unsure what can be pulled out of the system ○ CoC application asks questions about individuals who lose housing and if they are employed ○ Can HMIS be used to identify who is participating in employment programs? <p>6.5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contact to TDOT was provided – Abigail to f/up <p>7.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connie Farmer shared that Volunteer Behavioral Health is having agencies who use healthlink to flag housing status and target individuals who may not be getting services • Justin singleton recommended talking to Cindy Phillips of National Healthcare for the Homeless Council <p>9.1 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abigail to set up meeting between TDMHSAS, TDOC, and TennCare <p>9.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was shared that the VA uses a homeless screening monitor of 2 questions to determine if someone is homeless or at risk and then links to resources • Knoxville has a step down respite for homeless individuals to go into upon discharge from a hospital – Other programs in Tennessee? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ West Tennessee ○ Nashville’s Room in the Inn respite program • Connect with TennCare to discuss potential <p>10.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask CoCs what support they need • The importance of difference agencies to screen for homelessness or risk of homelessness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VA, Public Housing Authorities, Utility companies, Mental Health agencies • Connie Farmer to look into agencies that currently participate in screening
<p>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Alexander <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ send director contact to Abigail based on the CoC map ○ reach out to the 13 boards in the state to see how they may benefit from connecting more with the CoCs ○ compile AJC success stories for homeless individuals • Abigail Dowell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ send CoC map to John ○ Connect with TennCare to discuss potential of respite programs for homeless individuals ○ set up meeting between TDMHSAS, TDOC, and TennCare – action step 9.1 ○ A contact to TDOT was provided – Abigail to f/up ○ A collection of the meeting CoC meeting dates will be communicated with DOE who

	<p>will then send it out to the liaisons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ f/up with Katie Lee and DHS regarding employment success stories ○ TDMHSAS reach out to mayors and local leaders to make personal connections ○ Provide more publication of the Governor’s interest in ending homelessness and the link that has with his other initiatives regarding education and employment ○ Communicate to CoCs and DCS that unaccompanied youth to apply for FAFSA and mark themselves as unaccompanied, homeless youth – this will increase the amount of funding they receive. ○ Reach out to Todd to see how the Council and the PP&A Workgroup can support the Governor’s current efforts towards education and employment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connie Farmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ look into agencies that currently participate in screening for homelessness ○ provide contact info for the Kentucky Housing Coordination ○ • Justin Singleton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A new contact list of homeless liaisons is being created and will be sent out once complete
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ATTACHMENTS	
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